# A True ACCOUNT
## OF THE
# Proceedings of the Common-Hall,
At the Election of OFFICERS for the Year Ensuing,
## Held at the *Guild*-Hall of the City of *LONDON*, *June* 24. 1689.
AS ALSO
## *The Petition of the Citizens of* London *to the Commons of* England *Assembled in Parliament.*

1. July. 1689.

ABout Eleven a Clock on the said Day, (the Hall being full of the Liveries of the respective Companies) the Lord Mayor and the Court of Aldermen proceeded to the *Hustings*, where after a Proclamation for Silence, made by the Common Cryer, there was a Speech made by the Deputy-Recorder, and after him another by the Common Sergeant, both setting forth the occasion of their being met there that Day; and desiring their procedure in the business of the Day, might be carried on with that Unanimity and Prudence, as might both promote their own Honour and Advantage, and their Majesties Interest: Which Speeches were received with the Applause of the whole Hall.

After which (the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen being with-drawn in the Council Chamber, and the Two Sheriffs remaining upon the *Hustings*) the Names of the Candidates for Sheriffs were Read; which were, Mr. *Richard Chiswel*, Stationer, Mr. *Francis Child*, Goldsmith, Mr. *Richard Scot*, Salter, Sir *Thomas Lane* Alderman, Clothworker, *Christopher Lethelier* Alderman, Mr. *John Hubland*, Grocer, Mr. *John Deagle*, Draper; and some of these being Aldermen, and some Commoners, there arose a Dispute whether the Aldermen should have the Precedency in their Nomination; or whether they should be Nominated promiscuously, without any distinction of Aldermen or Commoners: And the Question being put, it was carried for the latter, as the Right of the Hall. Then each Candidate being severally propos'd to the Hall for their Suffrage, *Christopher Lethelier* Esquire, Alderman, and Mr. *John Hubland*, Grocer, were Unanimously Chosen; and by the Sheriffs immediately declared to be duely Elected Sheriffs of *London* and *Middlesex* for the Year Ensuing.

In the next place, the Hall proceeded to the Election of a Chamberlain, the Candidates being Sir *Peter Rich* the late Chamberlain, Mr. *John Jekyl*, Mr. *Matthew Meriton*, Mr. *Leonard Robinson*, Mr. *Edward Hartwel*, Mr. *Edward Bushel*, Mr. *Benjamin Ducane*, Mr. *Rookeby*, who being severally propos'd to the Hall, the Majority appeared to be for Mr. *Leonard Robinson*; which being declared by the Sheriffs, there were some that cryed out, A Poll, a Poll; but the Sheriffs being desirous to save the Citizens that trouble, proposed the putting up the Question a second time, between Sir *Peter Rich*, and Mr. *Leonard Robinson*; to which the Hall having consented, they were both propos'd to the Hall again; and the Majority then evidently appearing to be for Mr. *Leonard Robinson*, he was a second time declared by the Sheriffs to be duely Elected, and the demand of a Poll was no further insisted on.

The Hall then proceeded to the Choice of Bridge-Masters, and Mr. *Thomas Nicholas*, and Mr. *Isaac Puller* (the former Bridge-Masters) were continued.

They next proceeded to the Election of Auditors of the Chamber and Bridge-House Accounts, and of them, Mr. *John Morice*, Mr. *Peter Hubland*, and *Ralph Box* Esq; were continued; and for the fourth, *Slingsby Bethel* Esq; and Mr. *Justus Oslar* were Candidates, but the Choice fell upon the former.

Last of all, they proceeded to Chuse their Ale-Conners, and the three surviving ones being continued, one *Johnson* was Chosen for the fourth, in the room of him that was Deceased.

The Election of Officers being thus over, there was immediately a Petition, (proposed to be Presented to the Honourable the House of Commons) given into the hands of the Common Sergeant, to be Read, for the Approbation of the Hall: And the Question being put, Whether it should be Read,

Read, or not? It was Unanimously carried in the Affirmative; and after it was Read, as Unanimously Approved; which was sufficiently Testified both by several Vollies of Loud Shouts and Acclamations, and also by their desire to have it Read again, which was done accordingly, and thereupon their Shouts and Acclamations were again repeated. Then the Question was put, Who should Present it? And it was carried by the whole Hall, That it should be Presented by the Sheriffs and the Common Sergeant, with such other Citizens as the Sheriffs should think fit to accompany them. The Petition it self was as followeth:

# To the Honourable the Commons of *England*, in Parliament Assembled.

## The Humble Petition of the Citizens of *London* in the Common Hall Assembled.

Most Humbly Sheweth,

THat the Body Representative of the City of London, *in Common-Hall Assembled, for the Choice of their Sheriffs, cannot but with all humble Thankfulness acknowledge upon this Occasion, the Infinite Mercy of Almighty God, in his Gifts of Heroick Courage, and Excellent Conduct to His now Majestie; and Wisdom, and Council to your Honours, whereby the Petitioners Right to Elect their Chief Magistrates freely and quietly, hath been wonderfully preserved; all their Liberties, and the very Being of Justice, Peace, and Prosperity in the City, depending thereupon.*

*That by the Gracious Influence of Divine Providence, this City is become very Powerful, and a Strong Bullwark for the Defence of the Protestant Interest, and the Security and Quiet of His now Majesty and the Kingdom; If an Universal Amity and Unity be preserved amongst the Protestant Citizens, who do equally and perfectly renounce and detest all Communion whatsoever with the Papacy, and the Roman Church, and adhere only to the Authority of the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New-Testament: The Principal Danger impending over our English Church and State, being from the Politick Popish Designs to divide the Protestants as they did heretofore in the beginning of the Reformation, whereby they first subdued and destroyed the* Calvinists, *and then with the like Blood-Thirsty-Cruelty suppressed the* Lutherans, *whom they had deluded to help them in the Destruction of their Protestant Brethren.*

*Your Petitioners therefore most Humbly Pray, That by the Wisdom and Justice of this Honourable House, the Ancient Right of this City freely to Elect their Sheriffs, and other Magistrates, may be fully and clearly Vindicated from all Invasions of it, and Questions concerning it: And for that purpose, That the Bill for Restoring Corporations to their Rights and Privileges may be perfected, as Your Weighty Affairs will permit.*

*And in regard of the present Dangerous Conspiracy of the Papists, and their Accomplices, against the Protestant Religion, our King and Government, and the Invasion threatned by the French King, whereby the United Force of all the Protestants is most apparently necessary; They pray that our Gracious King may be freed from all Restraints of using His Protestant Subjects, indifferently, in His Military and Civil Services, according to their several Qualities and Abilities, wherewith God Almighty, Nature, Education and Experience, have endowed them, to that very End, that they might be Useful to their King and Country, and therein serve their God in their Generation.*

And Your Petitioners shall always Pray, *&c.*

*Guild-Hall London June* 24. 1689.

This Petition was the next day (*viz. June* 25.) presented to the Honourable House of Commons, who at first rejected it, for want of being Sign'd; but being afterwards sign'd by the Sheriffs and Common Serjeant, as the sense of the Common-Hall; it was Ordered by the House to be read, which was done accordingly.

Thus much was thought necessary to be made publick for general satisfaction; as well to prevent Mis-representations, as to let the World know that the Citizens of *London* can now chuse their own Officers, without running the hazard of being Indicted for Rioters, and are now no more liable to have Officers Impos'ed upon them against their Consents: For which valuable Mercy, let us all in the first place return our Unfeigned Thanks to Almighty God, as the Blessed Author of it; and in the next place acknowledge the Goodness of their Gracious Majesties, whom God has made the Glorious Instruments thereof: And for whom therefore we ought all heartily to pray, God bless King *WILLIAM* and Queen *MARY*.

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Licens'd, June the 29*th*. 1689.

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